11-30-11

Boston Massacre

On Wednesday, Joshua and I were able to FINALLY teach a lesson in Mr. Fuller’s class. The topic that we did was on the Boston Massacre and the events that led up to the event. How we taught the class was through a PowerPoint presentation with interactions with the kids along the way. How we did that was through asking them questions and having them tell us what they knew about a certain topic. If there was silence in the classroom we would not wait until someone raised their hand to say something, we kept the class moving. I can honestly say that I had an absolute blast teaching this lesson. Not only were the kids willing to learn and participate, this was the first time they have sat there alert for the whole class time. It may have something to do with the fact that Mr. Fuller was in the classroom as well, but I do not want to believe that.

Some of the affective assessments that we used when teaching our lesson was just asking the students questions about specific topics. The students should have read the chapter prior to our lesson. It definitely showed who did and did not read the text like they were supposed to. While there were a number of students that were actively participating, you had a handful of kids in the class that did not raise their hand once, even when I tried to make them engaged in the learning experience.

Some of the classroom management strategies that we used were pretty simple. We told the students that if they thought they knew the answer or had something to say they were to raise their hand and we would call on them. Just like in any class, you have the students that want to blurt out the answers because they want you to know that they knew the answer even if you did not call on them. For the most part all of the students were respectful to this and we did not have many problems.

Overall I thought the lesson went amazing. Teaching the lesson for the first class period allowed us to get some feedback from Mr. Fuller and help us prepare for the next hour and really wow Mr. Sievek. Our PowerPoint was really good to the extent that Mr. Fuller said he used it the following day for his first hour students. That in itself was a great thing to hear and really made me feel good.